

## **Sustainable Southampton Committee**

### **May 15th, 2010**

Committee Members in Attendance: Tip Brolin (Chair), John Barrows, Bob DeLuca, Scott Carlin, Jennifer Garvey (on behalf of Anna Throne-Holst), Tony Panza, Dorothy Reilly and Paul Rogers

Committee Members Not in Attendance: Nancy Graboski, Sheryl Heather, Ann Reisman, Janice Scherer, Ric Stott, Anna Throne-Holst and Deter Von Lehsten

Also in Attendance: Kate Schertel (Group for the East End), Tom Neely (Director of Transportation, Southampton Town), Allyn Jackson (Southampton Town Parks & Recreation Department) and Candice Grosch (Stony Brook Southampton Intern)

Approval of Minutes: Tip Brolin asked for a motion to approve the minutes. There was some discussion regarding the discussion about electric cars at the last meeting and a small revision was made to reflect the preference for the town to use hybrid cars not only for their efficiency, but to create a positive movement toward sustainability by the town. Dorothy Reilly made a motion to approve the minutes with this revision, Bob DeLuca seconded the motion, and the revised minutes of the May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting of the committee were unanimously approved.

Stony Brook Southampton Benefit: Tip announced that the committee purchased a table of ten for the May 20th benefit to "Save the College at Southampton." This purchase was made through individual funds of committee members who were able to give, and no town funds were used.

Community Outreach Presentation: Candice Grosch (Stony Brook Southampton Intern) made a presentation to introduce the town's efforts with regard to social networking. Specifically, Candice focused on the use of Facebook and how the town could expand its outreach efforts using this Internet tool. She displayed images of what the Sustainable Southampton page could look like, if the committee chose to utilize Facebook. In conclusion, Candice noted that Facebook is a cost-free and effective means for distributing information and creating a dialogue about sustainability within the town.

As Chair of the Education Subcommittee, Dorothy Reilly agreed to explore the process of creating a Facebook page for the committee, and how to best utilize this tool over the long term (i.e., who will maintain the page).

Maintenance of Town Lands Presentation: Allyn Jackson (Southampton Town Parks & Recreation Department) made a presentation on the town's current practices regarding the maintenance of town-owned lands. Specifically, he addressed the use of organic methods for treatment of town lands and he noted that efforts have been made to approach organic standards as well as to reduce fertilizer use through alternative methods (e.g., aeration). Several members of the Parks & Recreation Department staff have attended "Green Guerilla" training to balance the environmental impacts with the necessity of maintaining town land. Compost and compost teas are being utilized in place of fertilizers in many areas, and vegetation is being salvaged from CPF properties to be utilized in areas that require planting restoration.

Alan advised that utilizing environmentally friendly practices for land maintenance can be more expensive than traditional methods, and this must be considered when the committee is making recommendations on this topic. The philosophy of the Parks & Recreation Department is to use organic maintenance methods wherever possible, and the committee agreed to support the department in their

efforts to move toward more sustainable turf maintenance practices. Jennifer Garvey agreed to report the Parks & Recreation Department's efforts toward organic maintenance in the Supervisor's newsletter to increase public knowledge as well.

There was agreement among committee members present that there should be an educational effort to encourage residents to utilize more sustainable maintenance programs for their yards. This could be completed alongside the Town Trustees, since they have already begun an educational effort to protect local surface waters. Bob DeLuca suggested building legislation from the Suffolk County fertilizer ban and the educational materials produced as part of this program. Using this template, the town could help to enforce the law within its own municipality.

Dorothy Reilly agreed to communicate the names of people she knows (not on the committee) who are interested in this topic to Deter Von Lehsten, who is Chair of the Water Subcommittee. Tip agreed to reach out to Deter to fill him in on the discussion and ask for his assistance with this effort. This item will be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting. Bob DeLuca noted that there is \$1 million in Federal funding for stormwater programs in the five East End towns, which the town could take advantage of (a 20% match in funding or in kind donations is required).

New Business: Tip reported that he and Sheryl Heather would be attending the May 27th meeting of the Town Board to present the Anti-Idling Policy. He asked members of the committee to provide comments on the policy as soon as possible.

Dorothy Reilly suggested appointing Katie Magee to the committee, with the idea that she could coordinate the Education Subcommittee. Jennifer Garvey agreed to ask Anna Throne-Holst about adding members to the committee.

Tony Panza mentioned that LIPA would hold a seminar on May 19th to educate contractors about energy efficient building technology.

Paul Rogers reported that the Village of Southampton plans to adopt Energy Star building standards for residential and commercial new development, as well as an incentive program.

Jennifer Garvey reported that the recommended energy efficiency updates to Town Hall have been initiated.

As there was no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.